

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 /084 W

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R 031025Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1985

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 0040

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EAID, LA, VN

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN'S REPORT ON JANUARY 2, 1975, CABINET
MEETING

REF: VIENTIANE 9189 (NOTAL)

1. PGNU SPOKSEMAN OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG BRIEFED PRESS JANUARY
3 ON PREVIOUS DAY'S CABINET MEETING, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN
VIENTIANE UNDER JOINT CHAIRMANSHIP OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS
PHOUMI VONGVICHIT AND LEUAM INSISIENGMAY.

2. ACCORDING TO OUDAY, CABINET RATIFIED NORTH VIET-NAM/LAO
AID AGREEMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

3. NEXT, INFORMATION MINISTER SOUK VONGSAK AND INTERIOR
MINISTER PHENG PHONGSAVAN REPORTED ON THEIR MISSION TO
SETTLE THE BAN HOU EI SAI SITUATION. THE CABINET APPROVED
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THE GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE ON THE SUBJECT WHICH WAS BROAD-

CAST BY VIENTIANE RADIO ON DECEMBER 29 (FBIS D301106).
OUDAY CHARACTERIZED THE CABINET AS SATISFIED WITH THE
SETTLEMENT.

4. THE CABINET DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN "OFFICE DU BOIS"
TO REGULATE TIMBER EXPORTS. HOWEVER, UNTIL THE NEW OFFICE
IS SET UP AND FUNCTIONING, ALL SUCH EXPORTS WERE SUSPENDED.
THIS REVERSES THE DECISION TAKEN ON DECEMBER 18 (REFTEL,
PARA 4) WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED EXPORTS TO PROCEED UNDER
PREVIOUSLY-ESTABLISHED QUOTAS.

5. IN THE QUESTION-AND-ANSWER PERIOD, OUDAY WAS ASKED
ABOUT PROGRESS TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A TELEVISION STATION
AT VIENTIANE. HE REPLIED THAT THE SUBJECT WAS NOW UNDER
EXAMINATION BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT BECAUSE OF
GREATLY INCREASED COSTS THE GOF WAS NOT ABLE TO BEAR THE
ENTIRE EXPENSE AND WAS CONSIDERING ASKING CANADA OR BELGIUM
TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD THE BALANCE.

6. A REPORTER ASKED IF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY HAD BEEN RE-
ESTABLISHED AT BAN HOUET SAI AND WHETHER WEAPONS TAKEN
BY THE DISSIDENTS HAD BEEN RETURNED. OUDAY REPLIED THAT
HE COULD NOT SAY, BUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD KEEP ITS
PROMISES AND HE HOPED THE DISSIDENTS WOULD DO THE SAME.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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